

Cracklin' Static

December 2017 Edition



Breakfast Meeting – Sat, Dec 2nd

Boomtown Casino Hotel
Events Center
I-80 at Exit 4 in Verdi

Breakfast Buffet – 7:30am - \$12
General Meeting – 8:00am

Featured Presentation

Christmas Breakfast—Socialize and meet
your fellow members and our annual
Christmas raffle!

SNARS NOON NET – Weekdays

12:00PM - SNARS Linked Systems
<http://snars.org/nets>

SNARS NET on DMR – Tuesday 8pm

DMR Talk Group: 31328 SNARS

SNARS Treasury – Ending Oct 31

Checking:	\$5,988.47
Savings:	\$5,246.30
PayPal:	\$3,043.39
Trust:	\$9,123.43
<u>TOTAL:</u>	<u>\$23,401.59</u>

SNARS Membership – ending Oct 31

Technician:	121
General:	98
Advanced:	19
Extra:	115

SNARS Members	355
ARRL Members	235

President's Voice



President Anthony Marcin, W7XM

Email: w7xm@snars.org | Telegram: @w7xm_nv

For those interested we will start our planning for the NVCON 2018 on December 6, 2017 at 6:00PM at the REOC. We will be looking for volunteers to serve on the planning committee and volunteers for those needed to work the day of the event. If you are interested in helping with this year's event please attend. If you are not able to attend and want to be part of the event please email me at w7xm@snars.org.

I would like to thank everyone who has provided much to our organization again this year! Again we thank Dave Metts, K7UI for all he does for the organization by providing us the space on the mountain tops along with providing equipment. He has been a great asset to the organization.

Again thank you to the technical Committee, John Byerly, N7ROJ, Pat Sheehan, W7DED, Steve Kometz, N7KP, Paul Belton W7VY, and Charles Armstrong W7NTS for all the work they do to keep the equipment on the air.

Thank you to board of Directors for their efforts in keeping the organization rolling along as we truly do have a great board that do participate in the many activities we are involved with. A great working board of directors.

Thank you to the members of SNARS who provide membership dues to allow us to do the great things we are able to do and to support the maintenance and buildout of a great repeater systems.

And finally but not least thank you to all the presenters we had at our monthly meetings. We really appreciate their time they provide to present and to educate us all on the many aspects of amateur radio.

Merry Christmas and hope to see everyone on Saturday, December 2, 2017 at Boomtown for our annual Christmas Breakfast. See the flyer in the newsletter for more information. 73



PO BOX 7727 Reno NV 89510
 Yearly Dues: \$40.00 Individual • \$50.00 Family
 775.453.4142 <http://snars.org>

2017 Officers

President..... Anthony Marcin, W7XM
 Vice-President..... Jim Shepherd, W6US
 Treasurer..... Bill Jones, AE7OX
 Secretary..... Rob Dunbar, NB6C
 Director..... Wes Vick, KG7QXE
 Director..... John Byerly, N7ROJ
 Director..... Barry Bettman, K6ST

2017 Staff

Cracklin Static..... Howie Holden, WB2AWQ
 W7TA Trustee Peter DeBay, KE7VSR
 KR7ENO Trustee..... Howie Holden, WB2AWQ
 Control Operator..... Pat Sheehan, W7DED
 Historian Jon Fox, KF7KTC
 Tech Team Lead John Byerly, N7ROJ
 Membership..... Anthony Marcin, W7XM
 PIO Vacant
 VE Coordinator..... Bill Nichols, NN7K
 Meeting Greeter..... Bill Jones, AE7OX
 Noon Net Manager..... Wes Vick, KG7QXE
 DMR Net Manager Anthony Marcin, W7XM
 Reno Ham Swap Rob Dunbar, NB6C
 Webmaster Anthony Marcin, W7XM

Cracklin Static Publication

Editor: Howie Holden - holden7471@msn.com

Cracklin' Static is the Newsletter of, and sponsored by the Sierra Nevada Amateur Radio Society. Opinions expressed herein are those of the editors and contributors and should not be considered as official expressions of the Club Officers, Staff or Club Members, or as endorsements by same.

Material for publication may be edited to enhance readability or to save space. We reserve the right to use whatever font size or line spacing may be required to publish this Newsletter. **Deadline for input to the newsletter is 1500 hours on the Sunday** prior to the 1st Saturday of each month.

SNARS Wide Area Linked System

147.030 + PL 123.0	Sparks, Fernley, Fallon	Online
147.210 + PL 100.0	Reno, Sparks	Online
147.150 + PL 123.0	Lake Tahoe, Truckee, Carson	Online
146.925 - PL 123.0	Lovelock, Fallon	Online
146.670 - PL 123.0	Winnemucca	Online
444.875 + PL 100.0	Yerington	Online
444.125 + PL 123.0	Reno Sparks	Offline

DMR Systems

444.925 + CC 1	Reno, Sparks	Online
444.825 + CC 1	Dayton, Fallon, Carson	Online
443.925 + CC 1	Lake Tahoe, Truckee, Carson	Online
443.950 + CC 1	Incline Village	Online
442.875 + CC 1	Sparks, Fernley, Fallon	Online
442.850 + CC 1	Downtown Reno	Online
441.950 + CC 1	Fallon, Fernley	Offline

Fusion Systems

146.610 - PL 123.0	Reno, Carson, Dayton	Online
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IRLP / EchoLink Systems

147.300 + PL 123.0	Reno, Sparks	Online
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Packet / APRS

145.050 - RNO	Reno, Carson, Dayton	Online
145.050 - ROSE	Lake Tahoe, Truckee, Carson	Online
144.390 - TOULON	Lovelock, Fallon	Online

Standalone Systems

147.390 + PL 100.0	Reno, Carson, Dayton	Online
443.075 + PL 123.0	Reno, Carson, Dayton	Online
927.0875 + PL 114.8	Reno, Carson, Dayton	Online



Online



Offline



Not Linked

Thank you to our Sponsors/Supporters



Weekday on the SNARS Linked System

147.030 + PL 123 – Sparks/Fernley
 147.150 + PL123.0 – Lake Tahoe / Truckee
 147.210 + PL 100.0 - Reno
 444.875 + PL 100.0 - Yerington
 146.925 - 123.0 – Lovelock / Fallon
 146.67 – PL 123.0 - Winnemucca

Monday through Friday @ 12:00pm

Open to all amateur radio operators. A general informational net for the amateur radio community of Northern Nevada and Eastern California. Radio Checks and Questions are welcomed.

Nets on the SNARS Linked Systems

147.210 + 100.0 | 147.030 + 123.0 | 147.150 + 123.0
 147.670 – 123.0 | 146.925 – 123.0 | 444.875 + 100.0

Bishops Storehouse Net	Monday @ 9:15pm
N. Western NV ARES Net	Monday at 7:00pm
Northern Nevada Preppers Net	Wednesday @ 8:00PM
Hospital Net	Friday @ 10:00AM

Nets on IRLP (GSR) System

Repeater: 147.300 + 123.0

Amateur Radio Newsline	Monday - 8:00PM
Nevada Skywarn Net	Wednesday - 7:00pm
Nevada State ARES Net	Thursday - 7:00PM

Nets on Simplex/HF

Jefferson Noon Net	7.204 LSB	Daily - 12:00pm
6 Meter Net	50.350 USB	Tuesday – 8:00pm
2 Meter Week Signal	144.250 USB	Wednesday - 8:00PM
2 Meter Simplex Net	146.500 FM	Thursday – 8:00PM
10 Meter Net	28.350 USB	Sunday – 2:00PM

**SNARS Weekly DMR Net – Tuesdays
8:00PM**

SNARS Talk Group 31328

Open to Members and Guests. A general information net each week on DMR.

SNARS CALENDAR

NVCON Planning Kick-off Meeting December 6, 6PM

Washoe County REOC, 5195 Spectrum Blvd Reno, NV

VE Testing Saturday December 16, 9 AM to 12 noon

Washoe County REOC, 5195 Spectrum Blvd Reno, NV

Details see: <https://snars.org/exams/>

SNARS Board of Directors Mtg Wed, Dec 20, 6pm – 7pm

Washoe County REOC, 5195 Spectrum Blvd Reno, NV

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Derrick DeLong KK6HJH
 James Jacobs KA7AOC



2017 Annual SNARS Christmas Breakfast



Boomtown Casino Hotel—Event Center
Saturday, December 2, 2017 @ 7:30AM

Door Prizes!



AnyTone D868UV DMR Dual-Band HT

Yaesu FT65 Dual-Band HT

Chameleon Emcomm II Antenna

and more...



Breakfast Buffet—\$12.00

(Tax & Tip Included)





Nevada State Amateur Radio Convention

NVCON

RENO-TAHOE 2018

Planning Kick-off Meeting

December 6, 2017 @ REOC—6PM

Join us for our kick-off meeting! We will provide an overview of current activities, solicit for planning committee members, day of activities volunteers and ideas on what you would like to see at this year's convention.

THE NAME OF THE GAME

Jim Shepherd, W6US | nvjims@gmail.com

TWO NEW CONTESTS COMING UP

These two new contests are being designed so everyone can participate. The first will start with the New Year in London (0000 UTC) and run for the entire year. The object is to work as many of the 32400 grid zones as possible. Participants are limited to 8760 hours of on-the-air time so there will be plenty of opportunities! The ARRL International Grid Chase will be one of the easiest contests to enter ever... It will allow contacts on all bands except 60M, and entries are recorded by uploading your log to Log Book of the World (LOTW). There will be 3 different categories, Phone, CW and Digital which includes all of the current text based digital modes, but you cannot use repeaters, digipeaters, Echolink, IRLP, or non-satellite cross-band QSOs, however satellite and moon-bounce are allowed. The object is to work as many different 4 digit grid zones as possible each month and during the year as there will be both monthly and overall awards. You can create entries while doing your normal hamming, just be sure to log the contact. While it will be nice to give out your 4 digit grid zone, it is not strictly required. If you are operating away from your home location, you will have to give your operating position to LOTW so that the other station will get credit for the grid and this is done in LOTW by setting the different location when you upload. There are lots of grids that do not have resident hams, so there are great opportunities to take to the field. Complete rules and information (which may change as the year goes on...) can be found on the ARRL's website at: <http://www.arrl.org/international-grid-chase-2018>

There is a club component to this contest, and the rules are unclear at this time, so I will be collecting your callsign and home 6 digit grid zone for the contest for submission to the ARRL. You can get your 6 digit grid designator by locating the latitude/longitude of your home on Google Earth and putting the numbers into the calculator at: <http://www.amsat.org/amsat-new/tools/grids.php> I will be updating the list 3 business days before the end of each month and on the Wednesday before any ARRL contest, once you are on it there is no need to update unless you move. Send your callsign and grid to me at nvjims@gmail.com.

The second contest is much closer to home. SNARS is going to sponsor the Nevada QSO Party! Many years ago there used to be one, but it was not well known and died due to lack of participation. We are planning on using the second full weekend in October for the date as that slips in between the California QSO party on the first weekend and Pacifcon

on the third weekend. We will have 3 modes available, the traditional Phone and CW/Digital modes on the 6 regular HF frequencies, and a VHF mode on all the frequencies above 50 MHz. We are combining the CW and Digital contacts together and they will score 3 points per contact. Phone will score 2 points per contact, and the usual rules about these HF contacts will apply. To get everyone involved, the VHF mode will include repeater contacts with all scoring 1 point regardless of transmission mode. Out-of-state stations will have the 17 Nevada Counties as multipliers, and Nevada stations will have all the Nevada Counties, all the US states, Canadian Providences, and up to 10 DX stations as multipliers. Score will be number of QSOs times the mode multiplier times the location multipliers.

The biggest key to this contest is getting people out into the rural areas so we can activate all 17 of the counties. To that end, we are running the contest from 0300 UTC Saturday to 2100 UTC Sunday (8 PM Friday to 2 PM PDST) which will allow a longer time to get out and get home so those of you who are not fortunate enough to be retired can make it to work Monday morning... We will be taking signups for the counties to try and spread the pileups!

New to this contest is allowing the use of repeaters in the VHF mode. This will allow everyone including the newly licensed with only a handheld, to participate. Some moderation is needed for this class of operation, and Nets need to be off limits for contacts. The use of IRLP, Echolink, and the digital voice gateways need to be done in a way that allows for other users to also use the resources. It will allow the easy fielding of additional stations in the rural areas.

We will be contacting the major contest logging program managers with the rules and they should have the necessary overlays for the contest. We are currently working on the scoring software for log submission at the end of the contest.

There is a lot of work to be done to get this contest up and running. It needs to be publicized not only around the state, but in the major contest publications. The open source scoring software will need some adjustments and anyone with Linux and programming ability will be a tremendous asset! In other words, we will need help getting this contest up and running and this includes post-contest scoring.

If you are interesting in helping with this event, please contact me at nvjims@gmail.com

SNARS LOGO ITEMS

This year we are celebrating our 50th year by providing many ways to commemorate this occasion by imprinted our 50th



Stickers \$1.00 Each



16oz Coffee Mugs \$8.00



Hats \$10.00



Club Badge \$15.00

Order at

<http://snars.org/store/badge-order>

Items are available at the monthly meetings, events or online (coming soon) <http://snars.org/store>

MIKE'S MISSIVES CHAPTER THIRTY ONE

Mike Katz, N7MSK

PART 97 – Control Operator Responsibility

Under all circumstances it is the station licensee (or trustee for a club station) who is ultimately responsible for the correct and proper station operation. If the station licensee has a designated control operator, the rules consider both to be equally responsible for the correct operation [97.103(a)]. This means that the control operator must make certain that the station is being operated properly at all times [97.105(a)]. If you, as the licensee or control operator, are in doubt as to whether the station is being operated according to the rules and good amateur practice, it is your responsibility to immediately cease the transmissions. Don't transmit again until you are certain the station can resume legal, safe and appropriate operation.

NAME THAT RIG



(answer on page 10)

SNARS FIRST RENO MEET-UP 11-15-17

Barry Betts KS6T snapped these photos from SNARS first Reno Meet-up at the Black Bear Diner on S Virginia. These Meet-ups have been in addition to the regular SNARS breakfast meetings.



NV AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE PLATE

Did you know that If you have a NV Amateur Radio License Plate, you can get the \$10.00 Annual Renewal Fee waived by submitting a *Waiver of Radio Amateur License Plate Renewal Fees Form, SP 50* at the time of registration renewal?

The Form can be found for download at <http://dmvnmv.com/platesorganization.htm>.

Here you will see the link to *Waiver Application SP 50* on the far-right side under the column labelled "Availability".

I have been told that the DMV does not see this Form very often, so the DMV Technician that processes your renewal may need to get some help on what to do with it...mine did, so be patient.

Richard Vogt, AG7RV | AG7RV@WCARES.US

EDITOR'S SOAP BOX

Would you like to be published in Cracklin Static? We're always looking for ham radio-related articles, and news items. And, if you're proud of your shack, and would like other to see it, why not send us a photo or two? (hint: I've always considered a clean desk – or shack – to possibly be the sign of a sick mind), so even if yours isn't QST cover-ready, why not let the world, or at least SNARS see it? Send stuff to: hold-en7471@msn.com

Did you participate in the recent ARRL Sweepstakes, or the CQWW contests? Even if you're not into contests, and I understand this because I am generally not, they are a great way to pick up that state you're missing for WAS, or add to your DX total! I worked the CQWW test for a total of 1.5 hours, just for giggles. 47 QSOs, three new countries, although not rare ones. Got to exercise some of my older gear on 80 through 15, and for those of you who don't know, I'm antenna-challenged with the CC&Rs. That means stealth, low, etc! You don't need a 100 ft tower and a KW.....

One of my favorite operating events is coming up the week-
(continued next page.....)

ends of December 9 and 16: The Antique Wireless Assn's Bruce Kelly 1929 Transmitter party. If you hear some weak, scratchy, squeally, unstable, chirpy signals on 80 from 3.550 to 3.570, and on 40 from 7100 to 7125, this is it. It's ham radio as it was almost 90 years ago. Single tube, or maybe two, self excited oscillators directly connected to an antenna system, ham radio in its infancy. Interested? Visit <http://www.antiquewireless.org/bruce-kelley-memorial-cw-qso-party.html> or talk to me!

73 and whatever you celebrate this season, make it a joyous one. Howie WB2AWQ



1929 Push-Pull TNT (Tuned, Not Tuned) Self-Excited Transmitter

SKYWARN RECOGNITION DAY

SRD this year takes place on Saturday, December 2 from 0000 until 2400 UTC (starts on the evening of Friday, December 1, in US time zones). During SRD, ham radio operators will set up stations at National Weather Service (NWS) offices and contact other radio amateurs around the world.

Participating Amateur Radio stations will exchange a brief description of their current weather with as many NWS-based stations as possible on 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6, and 2 meters plus 70 centimeters. Contacts via repeaters are permitted.

SRD was developed jointly in 1999 by the NWS and ARRL to celebrate the contributions SKYWARN volunteers make to the NWS mission — the protection of life and property. Amateur Radio operators, which comprise a large percentage of SKYWARN volunteers, also provide vital communication between the NWS and emergency managers, if normal communications become inoperative.

(Editor's note: the above was from the ARRL website.)

There are three NWS Forecast Offices in Nevada, one each in Reno, Elko, and Las Vegas. This year all three will have stations on the air. Look for WX7RNO in Reno, WX7LKN from Elko, and WX7LAS in Las Vegas as you tune across the bands.

Licensed hams located near these three stations may also participate by visiting their NWS Forecast Office and taking a turn at the station controls.

(Editor's note: These two paragraphs are excerpted from: <http://www.nevadahamradio.com/skywarn-covered.html>

FUN STUFF FOR NOVEMBER

Looking for some excitement on the bands during December? There's something for everyone on the air!

The contests in **bold** may qualify for the ARRL club contest competition.

1 Dec 2200 to 3 Dec 1600 1.8 ARRL 160-Meter Contest CW
www.arrl.org/160-meter

9 Dec 0000 to 10 Dec 2359 28 ARRL 10-Meter Contest CW Ph
www.arrl.org/10-meter

9 Dec 2300 to 17 Dec 2300 1.8-7 AWA Bruce Kelley 1929 QSO Party CW www.antiquewireless.org (repeats 16 to 17 Dec)

17 Dec 1800 to 17 Dec 2359 3.5-50 ARRL Rookie Roundup, CW
www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup

For a full list of contests, see:

<http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Contest%20Corral/2017/November%202017%20Corral.pdf>

If you're not into contests, there's always DX to chase, and November has tons of good ones! Some of the better DX operations coming up in December:

Dec 02 to Dec 06 **Samoa 5W0DXA**

Dec 03 to Dec 08 **Laos XW4ZW**

Dec 05 to Dec 07 **Tonga A31NM**

Dec 05 to Dec 12 **Cyprus SBA ZC4MK**

Dec 09 to Dec 10 **Cape Verde Is D4C**

Dec 15 to Dec 17 **Senegal 6V1A**

Dec 16 to Dec 24 **Corsica TK**

Dec 25 to Jan 12 **Senegal 6W**

Visit <http://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html> for current info and full lists!

ARES NEWS

I hope you all had a GREAT Thanksgiving. This year we decided to see if we could help the Sparks Parks & Recreation with the Thanks Giving Turkey Trot by providing communications between all the Aid Stations and the event coordinators and keep track of the last runners. Many thanks to KF7KEM, KA7FOO, KF7NJL, N7JDM, KG7ZHD, W6RJK, KM6EXT for helping with this exercise. The coordinators were very thankful for our help as we were able to report to the race timers so they didn't close before all the runners returned.

Be sure to attend the ARES training on December 2nd our guest speaker will be Jim Piper N6MED of Sacramento Chapter of the American Red Cross. Jim has been presenting to the Sac Valley Section ARES teams regarding Red Cross disaster communications and how our ARES partners can help them. Jim provides a look "behind the curtain" about what the Red Cross really does during both disaster response and recovery ops, plus a messaging utility (flmsg) and HTML flavors of our disaster forms. (We are deploying this tool set throughout our region now and I anticipate it will be distributed nationally.) Jim is an RN, licensed in 2008, having made a major career change after a long history in Sillycone Valley.

Hope to see you there.

Bob Miller WA6MTY

Amateur Radio Emergency Service Emergency Coordinator

775 843-5952 www.wcares.us

OFFICIAL FIELD DAY SCORES

The ARRL has released the official scores from Field Day 2017. SNARS/W7TA came in first in NV with 3512 points, edging out "the Hams on the Hill" from the Vegas area by just a few hundred points. We were 7th overall in our category 7A, 15th in the Pacific Division, and 454th overall country-wide. Way to go SNARS!

NAME THAT RIG

(from pg 8)

In October's CS I featured a Henry 2-K amplifier. While many of us remember Henry for those beautiful amps, how many of us remember Henry selling HF transceivers? In the early 1970s Henry released the **Tempo One** HF transceiver. In reality it was a Yaesu FT-200, simply rebranded. Unlike their amps, the Tempo One was at best a mediocre performer. It was set up with SSB, AM and CW, but the only mode that really shone was SSB. Typical of transceivers of the day, it ran about 100+ watts out from a pair of sweep tubes. Sales were, like the rig, mediocre. It was followed by the Tempo 2020, made by Uniden, which sold even less, and that marked the end of Henry Radio selling HF rigs.

STRAIGHT KEY NIGHT

It's time to drag out that old rusty hand key, you know, the one you haven't used since you were a Novice! ARRL Straight Key Night begins January 1, at 0000Z, or 5 PM local Dec 31.

Started back in the early 1970s, Straight Key Night isn't a contest, just a friendly operating event to encourage the use of hand keys and mechanical bugs, and engage in friendly QSOs on New Years Day. The CW band sections come alive with the sound of manually generated Morse, often from vintage equipment that people used as Novices. After the event, you can have your fifteen minutes of fame by posting your comments, logs, photos etc., on the ARRL Straight Key Night Soapbox. Details and links to the soapbox can be found at: <http://www.arrl.org/straight-key-night>



1916 Signal Electric Navy 2 KW Spark Key



Board of Directors Meeting

November 8, 2017 – 7:00 PM
Great Basin Brewery, Reno

DRAFT MINUTES - To Be Approved on January 10, 2018

1. Call to order at 5:57 PM

Anthony Marcin, W7XM	Yes	Barry Bettman, K6ST	No	Rob Dunbar, NB6C	Yes
Bill Jones, AE7OX	Yes	John Byerly, N7ROJ	Yes	Wes Vick, KG7QXE	Yes
Jim Shepherd, W6US	Yes				
Visitors None					

2. Approval of Minutes

- A. NB6C moved to approve the Minutes from 8/16/17 meeting. KG7QXE seconded the motion and the motion passed.
- B. NB6C moved to approve the agenda as presented. N7ROJ seconded the motion and the motion passed.

3. Reports

A. President's Report – Signed agreement with NDOW for Winnemucca site. We have vendors for

B. Secretary Report

- 1. Status Report –No Report
- 2. Change of Organization Type from Chapter 81 to Chapter 82 – Document signed W7XM will record.

C. Membership Coordinator

Currently 352 members.

D. Treasurer

Banking balances as of October 31, 2017: Checking: \$6,999 Savings: \$5,246 PayPal: \$2,704 Trust Fund: \$9,123 for a total of \$24,072

E. Technical Committee - Report

- 1. Davidson is working again for now.
- 2. A motion by N7ROJ to purchase a new IRLP computer was seconded by W6US and the motion passed.
- 3. Planning a trip to Peavine with the 440-analog repeater.

F. Control Operators / Trustee - Report

No Report

G. Events

Nevada QSO Party – looking to change date of QSO party 2nd Saturday in October.

H. Education Team

No Report

I. Noon Net

Going well.

J. HF Team

Club has purchased two FT450 transceivers. W7XM developing a training class for the operation of these radios.

4. New Business

A.

- A. SNARS 50TH Anniversary Celebration – W7XM is working on.
- B. Nevada QSO Party – W6US is planning 2nd weekend in October 2018.
- C. NVCON – Planning committee has been established upcoming meeting soon.

5. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be January 10, 2018 - Wednesday at 6:00PM – Great Basin Brewery, Reno.

6. Public Comments

7. Adjournment at 7:07 PM by NB6C 2nd by N7ROJ